

Claims:

1. A drip chamber in a cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) drainage system comprising:  
a tube having an outer surface;  
a vent in fluid communication with the tube, the vent having a filter made of a hydrophobic  
5 porous material wherein the pore size of the filter ranges from greater than .45  $\mu\text{m}$  to about  
5.0  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and  
the vent having a surface area ranging from about 0.8  $\text{cm}^2$  to about 5.0  $\text{cm}^2$ .
2. The drip chamber of claim 1 wherein the filter is flush with the outer surface of the volume  
10 reservoir.
3. The drip chamber of claim 2 wherein the vent is integral with the outer surface of the  
volume reservoir.
- 15 4. The drip chamber of claim 1 wherein the volume reservoir is rigid.